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CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and other United Nations institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report responds to General Assembly decision 45/428 of 18 December 1990, by which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations Development Programme to explore, as a matter of urgency, the possibilities for full funding of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) through voluntary contributions and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report to the Assembly, at its forty-sixth session, on the situation of the Institute and all other autonomous institutes of the United Nations, and to include therein, if appropriate, proposals for a balance between voluntary contributions and financing through the regular budget.

2. This report is limited to a description of the situation of UNAFRI and other autonomous institutes involved in crime prevention and criminal justice. It was prepared in consultation with the directors of the institutes and the Administrator of UNDP. It outlines the historical background, programme activities and sources of funding of UNAFRI and the other institutes. It also gives an account of the work of crime prevention institutes cooperating closely with the United Nations that do not have a formal affiliation, and offers recommendations for action.

II. BACKGROUND

3. In recognition of the importance of regional and interregional cooperation, and in response to legislative mandates, the Secretariat, in cooperation with Member States, established a network of crime prevention and criminal justice institutes to assist countries and to promote international cooperation in this field at the global, regional and subregional levels. This network includes the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), formerly the United Nations Social Defence Research Institute (UNSDRI) located at Rome, established in 1968; the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) at Fuchu, Japan (1961); the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD) at San José (1975); the Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI) at Helsinki (1981); and the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) at Kampala (1987). Other institutes cooperating closely with the United Nations include the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (ASSTC) at Riyadh (1980) and the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) at Canberra, Australia (1971).

4. In paragraph 9 of its resolution 1991/15 of 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council welcomed the initiative taken by the Government of Canada to establish in Canada a new international centre for criminal law reform and criminal justice policy as an institute affiliated with the United Nations, and invited the Secretary-General to conclude an agreement with the Government, as appropriate. Consultations were initiated for that purpose.

5. In accordance with their terms of reference, the institutes undertake training programmes, collection and dissemination of information, research and technical assistance, with the view to furthering regional and international cooperation. They play a major role in advancing knowledge and criminal justice reforms at the national level, in line with United Nations guidelines; promoting joint action and providing the main facilities for the exchange of information and upgrading of skills. The General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control have repeatedly called for their reinforcement and close coordination of their activities. In particular, in its resolution 1979/21 entitled "Strengthening of United Nations institutes and United Nations-affiliated institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders", the Council requested the Secretary-General to take all appropriate measures to ensure permanent financial resources - in addition to voluntary contributions from governmental and non-governmental sources - by placing the question before the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations regional commissions. The Council further requested the Secretary-General to study how to secure better coordination of the work programmes of the institutes.

6. The scope, functions and activities of the institutes were reviewed by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its fourth and fifth sessions. 1/ The continuous evaluation of the role and contribution of the institutes was deemed indispensable for the assessment of the overall impact of United Nations activities in this field. Their work was further considered by the Committee at its ninth, tenth and eleventh sessions in the context of the overall review of its functioning and programme of work. At its ninth session, the Committee emphasized that it was imperative for the United Nations system and funding agencies to assist the institutes and to strengthen their role to enable them to carry out their activities and achieve their common objectives. 2/ The Committee also recommended that collaborative arrangements be enhanced between the regional commissions and the relevant intergovernmental organizations. Similarly, the conclusions and recommendations of the programme review, reflected in Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/53, underlined the need for adequate support for the institutes, and called for closer collaboration between them and the Secretariat, inter alia, through the sharing of information, technical backstopping of activities, secondment of personnel, exchange of expertise and joint programming, as well as seminars and training courses on priority issues of concern to countries of the respective regions.

7. By its resolution 11, entitled "Support for the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders", the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders requested the United Nations Secretariat to support and promote technical and financial cooperation between developed and developing countries with regard to crime prevention, criminal justice and human rights, so as to intensify the programmes and activities of the regional institutes, particularly those serving the developing countries. The Congress also urged Governments of developed countries outside the region, their technical cooperation offices and other funding agencies, to offer greater

technical and financial support to the countries of the region, through ILANUD, in its efforts to develop joint programmes and activities to strengthen the efficacy of systems for crime prevention and criminal justice. Furthermore, by its resolution 12, the Congress invited the international community to assist the African Institute directly or through the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, by donating equipment for technical data processing, seconding personnel, and funding projects included in its 1990-1993 work programme. 3/

III. UNITED NATIONS AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

8. Further to the recommendations of the Sixth and Seventh United Nations Congresses and other bodies, UNAFRI was established in 1987 at its temporary headquarters at Addis Ababa, where some initial activities were undertaken. The Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), at its fourteenth session, held at Niamey in April 1988, accepted the generous offer of Uganda to host the Institute and approved its statute. To date, 26 of the 50 member States of ECA have signed the statute. 4/

9. The inaugural meeting of the Governing Board of UNAFRI approved the programme of work and budget of the Institute for 1989-1993, and considered various administrative and financial matters. It also approved a project document for financing by UNDP, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/59. The Agreement with the host country was signed on 15 June 1989. The Institute's Director and Deputy Director were appointed shortly thereafter, and the recruitment of other core staff is under way.

A. Overview of planned activities

10. The Institute is expected to assist States of the African region in formulating policies and programmes for the prevention of crime and treatment of offenders in the context of overall national development planning; to design and conduct training programmes for different categories and levels of criminal justice and related personnel; undertake policy-oriented studies and research on priority problems in the region; assist in developing effective policies and programmes for the prevention and control of juvenile delinquency and treatment of juvenile offenders; establish a data bank, promote the exchange and transfer of knowledge, expertise and experience, and disseminate information to Governments, scholars, practitioners, researchers and organizations involved in the field; help develop innovative approaches to crime prevention and spur the necessary criminal justice reforms, in accordance with the United Nations norms and guidelines, drawing upon African traditions and orientations as well as on new developments in the field, and promoting collaboration among Governments of the region in formulating common policies and undertaking joint action.

11. Within those objectives, the Institute is expected to undertake activities in five major substantive areas, namely: training/human resource(s) development; research; information and documentation; advisory services to Governments; and promotion of collaborative strategies and activities.

1. Training/human resource(s) development

12. During the initial phase of its operation, the Institute organized two training seminars, in cooperation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and other United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice institutes: a Seminar on Planning for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the Context of Development, for senior English-speaking criminal justice personnel and national planners; and a Seminar on the Prevention and Treatment of Juvenile Crime and Delinquency in the Context of Development, for French-speaking personnel.

13. Training activities envisaged for the next four years include: (a) A seminar on the prevention of juvenile crime and delinquency and the treatment of offenders in the context of development, for English-speaking officials; (b) a seminar on planning for crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development, for high- and middle-level French-speaking personnel; (c) a workshop on reform of penal law and procedures, with emphasis on making them more appropriate to the African context and more responsive to the development needs of African countries, including drafting a model criminal code and code of criminal procedure; (d) a seminar on victims of crime and the prevention of victimization; (e) a training course on combating economic and organized crime; (f) a workshop on training needs and future training requirements of African countries, for heads of training institutions; (g) a seminar on the practical implementation of selected United Nations norms, standards and guidelines; (h) a workshop on the development and implementation of joint strategies and modalities to deal with transnational criminality; (i) a seminar on implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Eighth Congress; (j) a training course for correctional administrators on deinstitutionalization and prison reform; (k) a workshop on the development of training modules, drawing on previous work and regional experience; and (l) the organization of exchange visits, fellowships and internships.

2. Research

14. To establish a basic framework for data collection and analysis, the following research activities are envisaged in the work plan of the Institute: (a) an up-to-date assessment of the requirements of African countries in crime prevention and criminal justice; (b) an expert working group on the adaptation of the United Nations Manual for the Development of Criminal Justice Statistics to countries of the region; (c) action-oriented research on socio-economic aspects of development and criminogenic processes,

as a basis for policy formulation and planning; (d) research on the harmful impact of the new forms and dimensions of criminality and possible countermeasures; (e) updating of penal codes and criminal procedure in selected countries, drawing on the conclusions and recommendations of the workshop on this subject; and (f) designing and initiating comprehensive, policy-oriented research on policies and practices related to sentencing and the treatment of offenders, with a view of devising a model for the execution of penal sanctions, and the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders.

3. Information and documentation services

15. High priority is being accorded to the collection, exchange and dissemination of information relating to crime problems and trends, various means of crime prevention and control, and criminal justice operations. The main objective is to promote information sharing by gathering data on crime problems and trends, exchanging experience, providing clearing-house facilities to African States desirous to improve their criminal justice systems, and to utilize information on promising crime prevention methods and techniques as a means of curtailing crime nationally, subregionally and regionally. Pooling information would help to save resources and provide a knowledge base for action. The Institute intends to publish a semi-annual journal or quarterly newsletter, specialized monographs, bibliographies and reports of seminars, workshops and meetings.

4. Advisory services to Governments

16. Aiming to serve as an effective instrument for providing technical assistance to individual African countries, UNAFRI is expected to provide, upon request, advisory services to Governments in priority areas. These include the identification of local crime prevention and criminal justice needs and of the most effective responses, as well as comprehensive preventive strategies to deal with new forms of crime in the context of development and the critical situation facing Africa, and effect the necessary criminal justice reforms, with a view to upgrading this public service sector and introducing cost-effective management techniques. The Institute is to work in close coordination with the Interregional Adviser in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for the necessary backstopping and follow-up through project development and longer-term assistance. It is also mandated to help Governments design and organize national and local training courses, develop cadres of trained personnel and initiate action-oriented research projects, especially feasibility and impact studies and experimental innovations, including pilot and demonstration projects which, if successful, could be replicated.

5. Promoting collaborative strategies and joint activities

17. Major emphasis is placed on developing joint strategies and activities, including mutual agreements and practical arrangements for collaboration in the prevention and control of crime in Africa. The main objective is to stimulate collaborative action among countries of the region, with the cooperation of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, the United Nations institutes, other relevant United Nations bodies, including ECA, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations and international institutions active in this field. This involves elaborating basic legislative models and bilateral and multilateral arrangements for mutual cooperation and assistance in criminal matters among Governments of the region; establishing interfaces between continental criminal justice systems of francophone countries and the common-law systems of the anglophone ones; formulating strategies for crime prevention as an integral part of development planning and policies for the humane and effective treatment of offenders and victims, and instituting a framework for continuing dialogue and collaboration among ministers of justice/interior on priority issues.

B. Sources of funding and financial requirements

18. As recommended by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, UNDP approved a grant of $250,000 for preparatory assistance to cover activities during the initial phase of the project (1986-1987). Its main objective was to establish the basic infrastructure and *modus operandi* of UNAFRI, and to initiate its training, research and related activities. The aforementioned two training activities, organized in 1987 at the headquarters of ECA at Addis Ababa, launched the Institute's programme and elicited wide interest. Their reports were published and disseminated in the region, and some countries (e.g. Mauritius) sponsored follow-up activities.

19. As stipulated in its statute the assessed contributions are to meet the Institute's infrastructural and administrative requirements, as well as long-term programme needs, while its operational activities are to be funded by UNDP. The present financial situation of the Institute is precarious. To date only three member States of ECA have fully paid their assessed contributions for 1989-1990, while another has made a partial payment. The Institute's Director has initiated contacts with African Governments in this matter, as well as contacts with donor countries outside the region and with a number of international organizations and institutions active in crime prevention and criminal justice.

20. Aware of the Institute's budget difficulties, the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1990/19, acknowledged the economic constraints on African States that were hampering meeting their financial obligations to the Institute. It therefore urged UNDP to provide adequate funding to the Institute on an assured, predictable and continuous basis for a minimum of six years, subject to biennial evaluations of the Institute's performance by its Board and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control. Similar calls were

made by the Eighth Congress and the General Assembly last year inviting the international community to assist the Institute.

21. At the Second Ordinary Meeting of UNAFRI, in May 1991, the Governing Board examined UNAFRI's financing and stressed the pressing need for the assessed contributions from member States of the African region and for assistance from UNDP, which has pledged support of $2,013,716 through 1993. The host country is providing the premises and requisite facilities: the Government of Uganda has made special efforts to expedite the renovation of the Institute's headquarters.

IV. OTHER UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTES

A. United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

22. UNICRI was originally established in 1968 as the United Nations Social Defence Research Institute (UNSDRI), in response to a request of the Economic and Social Council to the Secretary-General to proceed with arrangements for a strengthened United Nations crime prevention programme (Economic and Social Council resolution 1086 (XXXIX) and ST/SGB/134). The Institute is located at Rome, thanks to a generous offer of host facilities by the Italian Government, with which an agreement was signed on 15 January 1988.

23. UNICRI activities have been oriented towards advancing scientific knowledge and generating action-oriented research on crime prevention and criminal justice. The Institute has aligned its work programme with that of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch in order to provide support in the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations crime prevention congresses and other policy-making bodies. It has also sought to strengthen its cooperation with the Interregional Adviser on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the implementation of specific technical cooperation projects.

24. UNICRI has reached an important stage in its evolution with the adoption, in 1989, of its new statute by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1989/56, which approved the expansion and diversification of the Institute's activities, especially in response to the needs of developing countries. Article III of its statute states that "The Institute shall be a United Nations entity and thus form part of the United Nations system"; article V outlines the functions and responsibilities of the Director and staff, to be appointed under the authority of the Secretary-General of the United Nations; while article VII specifies that the activities of the Institute should be funded by voluntary contributions from States and that the Institute may derive further resources in cash or in kind from the United Nations and other sources.

25. The objectives of UNICRI have been redefined, in accordance with its new statute, to allow it to contribute through research, training, field activities, and the collection, exchange and dissemination of information, to

the formulation and implementation of improved crime prevention and control policies in the context of broader development policies, socio-economic change and the protection of human rights. The Institute is thus expected to strengthen its technical assistance activities, enhancing its programme delivery and empirical work.

26. UNICRI programme activities include the promotion, coordination and conduct of international research, technical cooperation and publication of studies on priority issues. In 1990, a collaborative pilot project was carried out in Yugoslavia on development and crime and similar projects are planned for implementation in selected countries; a joint UNICRI/ILANUD project on the development of juvenile courts in Latin America is being conducted, with the publication of preliminary reports. Projects on social change and criminality in Tunisia and on other facets of crime and development are also being undertaken.

27. Among the technical cooperation projects being implemented are those on social rehabilitation and economic development at the El-Katta Prison Farm in Egypt; drug-abuse prevention, rehabilitation of the judicial system in Chad, and economic crime in emerging market economies. Training courses and seminars will be organized on crime prevention and social change, research methodologies, training of the judiciary, and drug-abuse prevention, undertaken with the cooperation of the Government of Italy and other interested Governments and institutions.

28. In addition to its substantive contribution to the Eighth United Nations Crime Congress through a research workshop and relevant reports, UNICRI is fully involved in the implementation of the recommendations of the Congress as they relate to its terms of reference, in cooperation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch and United Nations institutes. A planning meeting for the development of United Nations Statistical Criminal Justice Surveys was organized jointly by the Branch and the Institute at Rome, from 3 to 6 June 1991, to discuss the practical implementation of the relevant Congress resolution, and consider ways of improving the United Nations crime surveys and assisting countries to contribute to them.

29. UNICRI programme activities are funded largely from earmarked contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, mainly those of the host Government which has generously supported the Institute's activities from its inception. The Institute also receives contributions from other Governments, some non-governmental organizations and academic institutions, as well as from other funding agencies for the implementation of specific projects. Interested host Governments have also contributed to projects carried out at the field level in developing countries. UNICRI budget estimates for 1991 amount to $2,987,500.

30. During the last few years, the demand for UNICRI support and assistance has increased considerably, particularly from least developed and developing countries. In order to respond, the Institute's work programme is expanding, not only in the general area of crime prevention and criminal justice but,

more specifically, in the struggle against drug abuse, involving close collaboration with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the World Health Organization. Despite the recent increase in the regular contribution of the host Government, however, the resources at the Institute's disposal are still not commensurate with the expectations of its role held by Governments and the international community.

B. United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

31. UNAFEI has been active for three decades in the promotion of regional cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice through numerous training courses, seminars and workshops and research activities. It has an extensive network of alumni, many of them in policy-making positions in countries of the region. To date, the Institute has conducted 88 training courses, in addition to a number of international seminars and special courses, some organized overseas jointly with host Governments to meet the special needs of their regions or countries. By the end of 1990, the number of participants in the training courses had reached 2,013 officials from countries of the region and elsewhere.

32. During 1990, UNAFEI also organized three international training courses, attended by 87 Government officials dealing with criminal justice matters, from 30 countries of the Asia and the Pacific region. The themes of these training courses were policy perspectives on contemporary problems in crime prevention and criminal justice administration; wider use and more effective implementation on non-custodial sanctions; and search for effective and appropriate measures to deal with drug problems. The Institute continued the practice of holding joint seminars with interested Governments of the region, including one organized with the Kingdom of Nepal, intended to share with policy makers, high-ranking administrators and other experts, the Institute's experience and jointly formulating appropriate policies to confront contemporary criminality. In cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, UNAFEI, at the request of the Government of Kenya, conducted a training course for adult and juvenile probation officers, which provided training on various measures for the more effective administration of probation.

33. The 1991 international training courses are in line with the recommendations and conclusions of the Eighth Congress and include themes such as the development of an effective international crime and justice programme; institutional treatment of special categories of offenders; and effective and innovative countermeasures against economic crime.

34. As part of its research programme, UNAFEI conducted a special research project on the treatment of offenders in the major countries of Asia and the Pacific region, and measures to improve it. It also conducted an assessment of the response to United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice norms and guidelines and their application in Asian countries.

35. The Agreement signed in 1961 between the Government of Japan and the United Nations for the establishment of UNAFEI stipulated that the United Nations would provide funds for the Director of the Institute and a Senior Adviser, 10 fellowships and 3 visiting experts a year, as well as teaching equipment. The Government of Japan was to finance the post of the Deputy Director, the teaching and administrative staff, furnished and equipped premises and their maintenance, as well as practical training facilities. United Nations assistance was discontinued in 1970, however, and since then, virtually all financial responsibility for the functioning of the Institute has been borne by the Government of Japan. The Institute also receives contributions from voluntary organizations, such as the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, and from individuals interested in the programme.

C. United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

36. The main objective of ILANUD, headquartered at San José, is to assist the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean in the formulation of policies and implementation of measures for crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with United Nations standards and norms; their incorporation in national development planning, and the promotion of more effective, collaborative strategies to curtail rising criminality and its negative effect on development and the quality of life. The Institute also helps to improve the functioning of criminal justice systems, with due observance of human rights, and to promote the modernization of existing systems. It conducts a training programme to upgrade the competence of criminal justice specialists, planners, administrators, technical personnel and policy makers, organizing seminars and training courses on priority subjects. ILANUD carries out systematic, multidisciplinary, action-oriented research and develops research methods designed to assist national authorities and organizations in studies of particular interest to the countries of the region. It provides technical assistance to Governments, at their request, and fosters the exchange of relevant expertise and experience. The Institute collects, exchanges, analyses and disseminates information, and through its clearing-house and publications, provides a key service to Governments and others interested in the region's crime and justice situation and new developments in this field.

37. During the last few years, ILANUD organized more than 34 training courses and seminars, attended by prosecutors, prison personnel, law professors, sheriffs and other public officials from the region. These activities covered a large number of subjects, such as public prosecution, evaluation of the functions of justices of the peace, law reform, agrarian law, penal procedure, criminal justice statistics, criminal justice reform and crime prevention planning.

38. To promote technical cooperation and assistance benefiting the region, the Institute is carrying out a number of projects, in cooperation with interested Governments, other United Nations institutes and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch. This includes a regional project on

assistance to criminal justice systems and furtherance of human rights, financed by UNDP and executed by the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development. The project has two components: one on penitentiary systems and alternatives to imprisonment, including "legal assistance to prisoners conditions of critical poverty", in Venezuela; "Reduction of the prison population", in Costa Rica and Peru; a "Regional seminar on alternatives to preventive imprisonment", in Honduras; and a "Seminar on release on personal recognizance", in Costa Rica. The other includes "Assisted freedom for juveniles", in Argentina; "Protective measures for juvenile drug users", in Venezuela; a "Subregional seminar on delinquency and juvenile justice systems", in Colombia; and "National seminars on the rights of juveniles in the administration of justice", in Argentina, Guatemala and Nicaragua. National projects on strengthening the criminal justice system have always been formulated for Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras.

39. The Institute concluded a number of cooperation agreements with countries of the region, under which ILANUD undertakes a series of studies for the judiciary and the office of the public prosecutor. For example, at the request of the Government of Ecuador, a proposal is being prepared on the needs and problems of criminal justice administration and possible reform of criminal procedure. In collaboration with UNICRI, the Institute has initiated a study on the improvement and reform of juvenile courts in Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Uruguay and Venezuela.

40. In order to expand the Institute's collaborative ties with other agencies and United Nations bodies, an agreement was concluded with the International Cooperation Agency of the Government of Japan and UNAFEI in 1988, in order to implement a five-year project for the analysis of the problems related to the production of illicit crops, drug consumption, illicit drug trafficking and money laundering. Another agreement was concluded between ILANUD and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) to start the implementation of a community project for preventing drug abuse in Costa Rica. Similarly, a project was finalized with the Inter-American Commission for Drug Abuse Control of the Organization of American States for the training of criminal justice personnel dealing with illicit drug trafficking.

41. In its 16 years of existence, the Institute has obtained political and professional support at various levels, which has helped it to promote constructive change aimed at strengthening crime prevention and modernizing criminal justice administration, reinforcing respect for human rights. ILANUD has established a productive relationship with the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean at various levels, including ongoing dialogue and collaboration with Supreme Courts, Ministers of Justice, prosecutors, correctional services, and so on. Various common projects have been developed and executed jointly with national authorities. Among the examples of the impact of ILANUD in the region are the legislative reforms it has helped to bring about in penal and procedural matters in many of the countries; upgraded capacity of criminal justice and related institutions, through training of more than 5,000 officials and elaboration of materials to foster the proper utilization of staff; studies on key problems, such as protracted detention

pending trial, alternatives to imprisonment, prison problems and successful innovations; more reliable and comparaitve crime statistics and the establishment of a comprehensive framework for their collection; development of legal and criminal justice data banks, and reinforcement of the reference collections of countries in this field.

42. In carrying out its activities, ILANUD depends on voluntary contributions from Governments of the region and on private and international funding by agencies such as UNDP, but it has never had stable, secure and continuing financial support enabling it to fully fulfil its mandates. The debt crisis facing countries of the region has limited their financial support in spite of their good will. The host country has continued to provide the facilities and $490,405.40 for the salaries of five professional and seven administrative staff, as well as annual funds for operational costs. Thirteen countries contribute the equivalent of $98,000, covering the salaries of executive and technical staff, operational costs and some technical cooperation activities. ILANUD has sought to carry out its task of strengthening regional and international cooperation in the crime field and supporting the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in line with the Congress resolutions and other United Nations mandates but, because of its material constraints, has not been able adequately to fulfil its goals.

D. Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations

43. HEUNI became operational in autumn 1982. Its primary functions are to (a) organize seminars for policy makers, administrators, experts and researchers; (b) collect information on matters falling within its field of competence in order to provide interested Governments with relevant information, and publish and disseminate scientific materials; (c) conduct, within the limits of its resources, research serving the objectives of the Institute; and (d) hold conferences serving these objectives.

44. Throughout its 10 years of activity, HEUNI has operated in close cooperation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch in carrying out the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme. This cooperation has taken various forms, including the organization of expert group meetings on priority issues, preparation of substantive contributions to the documentation and working papers for the United Nations crime prevention congresses, and secondment of staff to the Secretariat on a short-term basis.

45. In the implementation of its programme activities, particularly the organization of seminars and formulation of research projects, the Institute applies two criteria: one is the relevance of these activities to the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, and the other is the identification of issues of priority concern to the European region. HEUNI has organized a number of European seminars as well as expert meetings on specific themes. The Institute also organizes seminars, training courses and research projects, in cooperation with interested Governments and

institutions. Among the themes and subjects dealt with and advanced by the Institute are: the development of a crime and criminal justice information system for Europe; application of United Nations criminal policy; development of a victim policy and improving the position of the victim in criminal law and procedure; development of criminal procedure; review of research on juvenile delinquency; non-prosecution; computerization of the criminal justice system; development of non-custodial sanctions; crime prevention strategies; alternatives to prosecution; and analysis of the European responses to the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends, Operations of Criminal Justice Systems and Crime Prevention Strategies.

46. HEUNI took the initiative of organizing, in 1990, the First European and North American Meeting of National Correspondents in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. The Meeting considered draft guidelines for the work of the national correspondents, who are intended to serve as a direct link between the Secretariat and Member States, and discussed methods of improving contacts among them, and between them, the United Nations Secretariat and United Nations institutes. Similar initiatives could be taken by other regional institutes so as to enhance the role of national correspondents and coordinate their activities and substantive inputs.

47. The 1991 work programme of the Institute responds to a number of recommendations of the Eighth Congress and aligns itself with that of the Secretariat. Thus, the Institute is continuing its work on the computerization of criminal justice, aimed at the preparation of a directory of criminal justice applications, a handbook on the assessment of the need for computerization, and training programme on computerization, to be developed in close cooperation with UNAFEI. Joint technical cooperation projects are also being implemented by HEUNI in cooperation with interested Governments. They include the computerization of judicial administration in Poland; use of automated information exchange to combat crimes against movable cultural property in Canada; initiation of a comparative European survey on law enforcement and sanctioning in the field of environmental protection, involving also the Max-Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law; an international seminar on the prevention and control of organized crime, in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR; a meeting, to be convened by the Council of Europe, on infection with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) in prison; assistance in an ad hoc expert group meeting on the development of procedures for assessing the extent to which Member States implement United Nations norms and guidelines, organized by the Home Office of the United Kingdom in cooperation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch; and publication of analyses of national criminal justice policies of European and North American countries.

48. HEUNI has a scholarship programme, offering each year a series of scholarships for post-graduate students and junior criminal policy practitioners. They have been held to date by more than 40 recipients from 15 European countries.

49. The funds for the Institute's functioning are contributed primarily by the Government of Finland, which covers the cost of the premises, salary of the staff and most of the programme activities. The Agreement establishing HEUNI envisages, however, that Governments of the countries serviced by the Institute will participate in and support its operation. The Governments of Denmark, Norway and Sweden have, accordingly, consistently provided annual financial support to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, earmarked for the Institute. In addition, other countries, such as Poland, the United Kingdom and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, have provided support through their cooperation in the substantive and organizational preparation of various projects and meetings.

V. REGIONAL INSTITUTES COOPERATING CLOSELY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

A. Arab Security Studies and Training Centre

50. The Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (ASSTC) at Riyadh serves the Arab region and collaborates closely with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch and the United Nations institutes. It provides technical assistance to requesting countries from the region, conducts training programmes, in cooperation with national and other agencies, organizes international and regional meetings, and undertakes joint activities and projects in cooperation with other United Nations bodies and agencies.

51. In its ongoing programme of activities, the Centre has placed emphasis on the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Eighth Congress. A comprehensive report on the topics, as well as the results, of the Congress and their implications for policy and practice, was prepared by the Centre and circulated to ministers, other high officials and experts in the region. The Centre took steps to promote the application of the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (The Riyadh Guidelines) (General Assembly resolution 45/112 of 14 December 1990, annex), originally drafted by an international expert meeting that it hosted. The Centre prepared a guide on the treatment of juveniles, for use by juvenile institutions and rehabilitation centres, and a commentary and manual on juvenile justice standards will also be prepared for circulation at the regional and subregional levels.

52. In response to other Congress resolutions, the Centre intends to intensify its programme of technical advisory services and technical assistance to requesting countries, as well as its research capabilities, particularly in the areas of urban crime, criminal justice education, transnational crime, environmental offences and traditional and modern forms of bribery. The Centre is, further, in the process of computerizing the various Arab criminal codes, developing a roster of experts and organizations active in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and promoting regional cooperation through seminars and training courses on computerization, intended to upgrade the skills of criminal justice personnel.

53. Of particular importance are the annual joint meetings on programme coordination in crime prevention and criminal justice, the primary purpose of which is to foster programme planning and examine modalities of cooperation, coordination and mutual assistance in areas of common concern. These meetings have afforded the network of United Nations institutes and the Secretariat the opportunity to promote the cross-fertilization of ideas, help to mobilize and pool resources, align programme activities and strengthen coordination among their respective activities.

54. Operating under the aegis of the Council of Arab Ministers of Interior of the League of Arab States, the Centre is deemed to be a regional institute for which all Arab countries are responsible in terms both of participation in programme activities and funding. Assessed contributions are made by Arab countries, supplemented by additional assistance and support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

B. Australian Institute of Criminology

55. The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) commenced its operation in 1973, pursuant to arrangements between the Commonwealth of Australia and its States. In 1986, these arrangements were extended to the Northern Territory. The Institute's activities comprise training and related activities at the national, regional and international levels, research and statistics, and the organization of conferences, seminars, and workshops. It collaborates closely with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna and the United Nations institutes.

56. The Institute conducts, on a regular basis, research on crime prevention and criminal justice matters which have practical policy relevance, and potential projects are assessed with this criterion in mind. The Institute collects crime-related statistics which are frequently requested by a wide range of agencies and individuals. The Institute's policy is to disseminate the results of its research through reports, journal articles and media interviews. The Institute's publications and research findings are issued by the Australian Government Publishing Service. The series Trends and Issues in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, initiated in 1986, has been well received by policy makers, institutions, the media and the public at large. Researchers at the Institute provide advice or prepare submissions to a number of Commonwealth, State, territory, or local government departments and authorities, as well as to other organizations concerned with such matters as fraud, drug use, crime prevention, domestic violence, public safety development, youth crime, terrorism, liaison with the media on crime rates, prostitution laws and other matters. Areas of practical and policy importance in which the Institute is currently involved include the assessment of future crime problems, community policing, defence ethics and fraud awareness, AIDS and prison policy, national crime and international crime victim surveys, and community-based crime prevention packages for aboriginal, migrant and general Australian communities.

57. As a follow-up to the conclusions and recommendations of the Eighth Congress, the Institute is placing emphasis on the practical implementation of United Nations norms and guidelines in crime prevention and criminal justice, both at the local and regional levels. In particular, it has been closely involved in the formulation of standard guidelines for correctional policy in Australia, which are strongly influenced by the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-Custodial Measures (The Tokyo Rules) (General Assembly resolution 45/110 of 14 December 1990, annex). The Institute has collected statistics on imprisonment rates for countries in Asia and the Pacific, and provided technical assistance in research to some countries of the region, particularly Papua New Guinea. It is also involved in the implementation of United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (The Riyadh Guidelines), and the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of Their Liberty (General Assembly resolution 45/113 of 14 December 1990, annex).

58. The Institute organizes conferences, seminars and workshops across the country on a wide variety of criminological topics of interest to the criminal justice community. In 1990, nine major conferences in four different States, nine seminars and two workshops were conducted, attended by national representatives and overseas participants. Their themes included delinquency, prevention on juvenile justice, organized crime, combating violence, access to justice, keeping people out of prisons, drug strategies, reform of sentencing laws, and corrections.

59. The arrangements between the Commonwealth and its States establishing the Institute call for funding by the Commonwealth and the establishment of a Criminology Research Council serviced by the Institute. The Council provides grants to researchers in universities, government departments or private organizations from a fund consisting of contributions from the Commonwealth, the States and the Northern Territory governments.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

60. A major constraint emphasized by the United Nations institutes, particularly those operating in developing countries, arises from their limited resources. United Nations policy-making bodies have recognized this problem and repeatedly called for more sustained support of the institutes' work, particularly in view of their significant contributions. Although their material and human resources are very limited, the institutes continue their valuable work, including training, research and information activities in their respective regions and beyond. They have played an important role, particularly in the organization of workshops, seminars and training courses, and in providing advisory services. Their activities have exposed national authorities to innovative strategies and policies, and sharpened the skills and expertise of personnel involved in crime prevention and criminal justice. Developing countries are especially in need of reliable databases, as well as appropriate training. They require access to up-to-date information about regional and international crime trends and tested crime prevention policies

and strategies. The institutes could render this type of service more adequately but require the means to do so. They could also play a major role in promoting joint action against crime, but are hampered by their material constraints.

61. The lack of a stable, foreseeable resource base for the institutes' operation, especially those located in developing countries, has prevented joint long-term planning, including the establishment of agreed upon overall priorities and phasing for complementarity and mutual reinforcement of activities. In spite of the attempt to follow policy guidelines deriving from United Nations resolutions and overall programme directives, especially in the case of ILANUD, project selection has been determined largely by the earmarked grants provided by some donors. Demands for consistent support of the United Nations activities can hardly be made under the prevailing constraints.

62. A true partnership between the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the institutes in the future, with joint planning, priority-setting and programme implementation, include action-oriented research, information exchange, training and advisory services in areas assigned highest priority by this United Nations programme and the Governments concerned. It should also, increasingly, involve new modalities of collaborative action against transnational crime, both at the regional and international levels.

63. The institutes could play a pivotal role in the fulfilment of certain new mandates, such as the proposed global training scheme, in pursuance of resolution 4 of the Eighth Congress, which requires a comprehensive framework and closely coordinated action. 5/ There is also an urgent need to synchronize the clearing-house facilities established by the institutes, link them to UNCJIN and assure suitable regional inputs to the data banks to be created in accordance with the Eighth Congress recommendations. It should be noted, in this connection, that the last Congress in most of its resolutions requested the full involvement and participation of the institutes in a number of new and additional tasks.

64. Extrabudgetary funds could also be used for special projects, including comparative studies carried out if possible in concert by the different institutes. In that case, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs or one of the institutes would assume the lead role (especially if it was mainly instrumental in obtaining the resources) and ensure the necessary project coordination and feedback to the others. This is true also of training initiatives, including special seminars, courses and development of teaching materials that could be adapted to varying contexts. Pilot and demonstration projects undertaken could also be jointly planned so as to test common premises deriving from United Nations policy guidelines in different circumstances or assess the success of variants or alternative approaches.

65. These will depend on the specific regional requirements and possibilities as well as the statutory nature of the particular institute. Thus, for instance, in the view of UNDP, the African Institute, in accordance with its

statute, has the status of an African intergovernmental body, established to serve member States of ECA. Article IX of the Statute stipulates that the Institute should derive its financial resources from annual contributions by Member States, as determined by the ECA Conference of Ministers, and from voluntary contributions from donors. Accordingly, the Governments of Africa are called upon to comply with their commitment and to contribute towards the core funding of the Institute. Whereas the UNDP allocation should allow the project to continue through 1993, additional UNDP funding is not to be included in the Fifth Regional Programme Cycle for Africa. UNDP would, however, be ready to encourage support by the donor community in the development of specific UNAFRI projects.

66. Consultations with UNAFRI indicate that, given the economic difficulties faced by most of the African countries, total reliance on the contribution of the host country and other countries of the region would seriously jeopardize the timely implementation of the Institute's programme which is already behind schedule. The two seminars organized by UNAFRI responded to a strong need for appropriate forums for the exchange and sharing of experience among African States and opportunities to work out common strategies. Both underlined the importance of the Institute as an instrument for the promotion of regional cooperation in this field. In the view of the Institute and its Governing Board, to be able to respond to the needs of Governments, UNAFRI requires stable funding to carry out its technical cooperation activities. It should be pointed out that other institutes, despite their own financial constraints, have indicated their readiness to support UNAFRI in the implementation of its programme activities. The Australian Institute of Criminology, for example, expressed its willingness to assist the Institute in establishing a viable information system, including the setting up of library databases, staff training and donations of library material.

67. As recognized by United Nations policy-making bodies in numerous resolutions, the institutes have a critical role, rendered more difficult under the present financial uncertainty. The directors of the institutes have expressed their strong determination to meet the responsibilities and growing expectations of the institutes, if circumstances and means permit.

68. Within the framework of international cooperation for crime prevention and criminal justice, the regional approach holds particular promise. Faced with similar problems and joined by common traditions, the countries of the various regions can together more effectively confront escalating crime, maximizing their response to it. This is particularly true of developing countries faced with a scarcity of means, which can usefully pool their expertise and experience with proper coordination and assistance by the Branch and the United Nations institutes. The institutes are developing a unique reservoir of knowledge that can be utilized for the benefit of member States, advance research and training at the regional and international levels, provide advisory services to Governments of their respective regions, promote joint strategies and develop other forms of regional international cooperation.

69. The Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs has always maintained close links with the United Nations institutes in both planning and implementing the work programmes. In the course of the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice, conducted by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and approved by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, a number of suggestions were made by the institutes to improve overall performance. These include: (a) regular and systematic exchanges of information and research results on issues of mutual concern; (b) secondment of personnel and exchange of expertise among the institutes and between them and the Secretariat on a long-term basis, so as to pool experience and knowledge for the benefit of programme activities at the regional and international levels; (c) joint organization of seminars, training courses and workshops to acquaint practitioners and policy makers with United Nations policies; (d) extension of human and financial support by the Secretariat to the institutes; (e) revitalization of the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence by using new fund-raising techniques and undertaking intensive fund-raising activities, which the shortage of staff-time and travel funds has so far precluded; (f) developing technical assistance projects for country-level action as a follow-up to the recommendations of the United Nations Interregional Adviser; and (g) providing regional advisers on crime prevention and criminal justice funded from the regular United Nations budget, as called for in Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/11.

70. If the United Nations network of crime prevention and criminal justice institutes is to fulfil its potential, it must have the capability to operate as an integrated system, linked also with the regional commissions and other relevant regional and interregional organizations, as well as the professional community. Systematic efforts of this kind can yield fruitful results but require a basic investment there where it can have a real multiplier effect and make the United Nations crime prevention system a vital and maximally useful resource. Those issues will, inter alia, be considered by the Ministerial Meeting on the Creation of an Effective International Crime Prevention and Justice Programme.

Notes

1/ See the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on the work of its fourth session (E/CN.5/536), paras. 37-41; and on the work of its fifth session (E/CN.5/558), chap. III.

2/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 5 (E/1986/25-E/AC.57/1986/9), paras. 17 and 37.

3/ Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August-7 September 1990, report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. A.

Notes (continued)

4/ Burundi, the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea (Conakry), the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

5/ Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August-7 September 1990, report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. C.

ANNEX

Estimated annual "recurrent" budget of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

(Core-Staffing and Administration)

		(United States dollars)
A.	Personnel (Professional and General Service staff)	506 965
B.	Administrative support	60 000
C.	Official travel/missions	69 000
D.	Equipment (first year (1991) only)	102 000
E.	Communications	33 000
F.	Operations/maintenance	45 000
G.	Miscellaneous	22 000
	TOTAL	837 965

Note: Substantive activities (training, advisory missions, research, documentation services) are to be financed mainly from donor funds.